

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 17, 2006 was received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are requested for the reasons advanced in detail below.

Claims 1-5 were pending prior to the instant amendment. By this amendment, claims 1 and 3-5 have been amended, claim 2 has been canceled herein, and new claims 6-12 have been added to recite additional features of the present invention to which Applicants are entitled. Consequently, claims 1 and 3-12 are pending in the instant application, of which claims 1, 4 and 5 are independent.

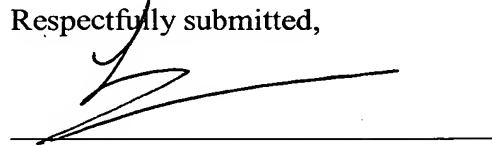
In the detailed Office Action, claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Yamazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2004/0224433 – hereafter Yamazaki). In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, 4, and 5, as shown above, in order to further clarify the claim language and to distinguish over the cited reference. As amended claims 1, 4, and 5 further include the feature of forming a wiring by etching the conductive film with the resist pattern as a mask at an atmospheric pressure or a pressure close to the atmospheric pressure by using a plasma generating means comprising one pair of cylindrical electrodes. Support for the amended features can be found on, e.g., page 13, second paragraph of the specification and Fig. 7C.

In contrast with the claimed invention, although Yamazaki discloses a plasma generating means provided with a plurality of pairs of cylindrical electrodes arranged linearly, Yamazaki does not disclose one pair of cylindrical electrodes as recited in the amended claims.

Consequently, since each and every feature of the present claims is not taught (and is not inherent) in the teachings of Yamazaki, as is required by MPEP Chapter 2131 in order to establish anticipation, the rejection of claims 1-5, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as anticipated by Yamazaki is improper.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 1 and 3-5 be allowed, that new claims 6-12 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue. If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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